

S.No.	Name of Bidder	Model
13	M/s. Gener Instruments Pvt. Ltd.	(Plan) for high resolution & Optical contrast
14	M/s. Getner Optical Industries	Kyowa Medulix-20 BK-1209A BK-1200B BK-1200C
15	M/s. Carl Zeiss India Pvt. Ltd.	Zeiss
16	M/s. H.D. Consortium, India	XS2-HI
17	M/s. Light Instruments (PTE) Ltd.	MLW-Lab

Investigations against DDG(TB)

2840. SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether investigation against DDG(TB) is on for purchase of Binocular Microscope, from M/s. Light Instrument Ltd., Singapore, through their Indian agent; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken against the DDG(TB)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WÉLFARÉ [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Eradication of AIDS

2841. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item, "AIDS is the biggest killer in India: UN", published in the Asian Age dated the 23rd July, 2000;

(b) if so, the reaction thereto;

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to eradicate the killer disease; and

(d) whether Government have any proposal to tackle this menace with a coordinated approach with the foreign countries and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. While the estimates of HIV infections are on the basis of surveillance reports undertaken annually by Government, the number of deaths quoted in the report are mere projections. Government, therefore, does not agree with the UNAIDS report.

(c) and (d) In order to prevent and control the spread of HIV/AIDS in India, a comprehensive Programme is currently under implementation throughout the country as a Centrally sponsored scheme. The project is being implemented with the assistance from World Bank, United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and Department for International Development (DFID) of U.K. The main components consist of:—

- Reducing the spread of HIV in groups at high risk by identification of target populations and providing peer counselling, condom promotion, treatment of sexually transmitted infections.
- Preventive intervention for the general population by Information, Education and Communication (IEC) and awareness campaign, provision of voluntary testing and counselling, safe blood transfusion services and prevention of occupational exposure.
- Providing financial assistance for opportunistic infections, home and community based care to people living with HIV/AIDS.
- Strengthening effectiveness and technical managerial, financial sustainability at National, State and Municipal levels.
- Promoting collaboration amongst public, private and voluntary sectors.

Privatisation of hospitals

†2842. DR. D. MASTHAN:

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to hand-over Government hospitals to private-sector;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.